IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ROBERT K. GALKIEWICZ, BRIAN E. SPIEWAK, DENNIS R. NICHOLS and JANET R. KIRKMAN

Serial No.:

10/044,367

Filed:

January 10, 2002

For:

MICROSTRUCTURED RELEASE

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Group Art Unit:

1772

Docket No.: 57384US002

Examiner:

N. Ahmad

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The deadline for filing a response to the Office Action mailed October 22, 2003 originally required a reply by January 22, 2004.

Applicants desire additional time to respond to the Office Action, and therefore request that the deadline for reply to the Office Action be extended two months from January 22, 2004 until March 22, 2004 under the provisions of Rule 136(a). Authorization is hereby provided to charge any fee required in connection with this paper, including the \$420.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(2) for consideration of this extension to Account No. 13-3723. A duplicate copy of this sheet is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

03/23/2004 CNGUYEN 00000143 133723 10044367

02 FC:1252 420.00 DA

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NML:jlh/57384US002 Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company P.O. Box 33427 St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427 (651) 733-2180 Facsimile: (651) 736-3833

Dated: March 19, 2004

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS. P.O. BOX 1450

ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON 14 CM 19. 200

BIGNED Judy S. Hanson